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General and complete disarmament: taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations

Austria, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Georgia, Ghana, Ireland, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Peru, Philippines, South Africa, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of): draft resolution

Taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 67/56 of 3 December 2012, 68/46 of 5 December 2013 and 69/41 of 2 December 2014 on taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations for the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons,

Deeply concerned about the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons,

Recalling the Declaration of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,[1] in which it is stated, inter alia, that all the peoples of the world have a vital interest in the success of disarmament negotiations and that all States have the right to participate in disarmament negotiations,

Reaffirming the role and functions of the Conference on Disarmament and the Disarmament Commission, as set out in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[2]

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[3] in which it is stated, inter alia, that responsibility for managing worldwide economic and social development, as well as threats to international peace and security, must be shared among the nations of the world and should be exercised multilaterally and that, as

[1] Resolution S-10/2, sect. II.
[2] Ibid., sect. IV.
[3] Resolution 55/2.

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the most universal and most representative organization in the world, the United Nations must play the central role,

Welcoming the efforts of Member States to secure progress in multilateral disarmament and the support of the Secretary-General for such efforts, and recalling in this regard the Secretary-General's five-point proposal on nuclear disarmament,

Recalling the outcome, including the action points, of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[4]

Reaffirming the absolute validity of multilateral diplomacy in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, and determined to promote multilateralism as an essential way to develop arms regulation and disarmament negotiations,

Recognizing the absence of concrete outcomes of multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations within the United Nations framework for almost two decades,

Recognizing also that the current international climate makes increased political attention to disarmament and non-proliferation issues, the promotion of multilateral disarmament and moving towards a world without nuclear weapons all the more urgent,

Welcoming the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament, held on 26 September 2013 pursuant to its resolution 67/39 of 3 December 2012, which highlighted the wish of the international community for progress in this field, and noting its resolution 68/32 of 5 December 2013 as a follow-up to this meeting,

Welcoming also the report on the work of the Open-ended Working Group to develop proposals to take forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations for the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons, submitted pursuant to its resolution 67/56[5] and referenced in its resolution 68/46, and the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to its resolution 68/46,[6] containing the views of Member States on how to take forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations, including the steps that Member States have already taken to that end,

Welcoming further the efforts by all Member States, international organizations and civil society to continue to enrich the discussions on how to take forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations in the United Nations bodies in which disarmament and peace and security are addressed, taking into account the report of the Open-ended Working Group and the proposals contained therein,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness, and welcoming the participation of all Member States in the efforts to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons,

Recognizing the important contribution that international organizations, civil society, academia and research make to multilateral disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control processes,

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[4] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I-III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vols. I-III)).

[5] A/68/514.

[6] A/69/154 and Add.1.

Emphasizing the importance and urgency of substantive progress on priority disarmament and non-proliferation issues,

Mindful of Article 11 of the Charter of the United Nations concerning the functions and powers of the General Assembly to consider and make recommendations with regard to, inter alia, disarmament,

1. *Reiterates* that the universal objective of taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations remains the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons, and emphasizes the importance of addressing issues related to nuclear weapons in a comprehensive, inclusive, interactive and constructive manner, for the advancement of multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations;

2. *Reaffirms* the urgency of securing substantive progress in multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations, and to this end decides to establish an open-ended working group to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on concrete and effective legal measures to achieve nuclear disarmament, in particular new legal provisions and norms to attain and maintain a world without nuclear weapons;

3. *Decides* that the working group shall also formulate recommendations on other measures that could contribute to taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations, including but not limited to transparency measures related to the risks associated with existing nuclear weapons, measures to reduce and eliminate the risk of accidental, mistaken, unauthorized or intentional nuclear weapon detonations, and additional measures to increase awareness and understanding of the complexity of and relationship between the wide range of humanitarian consequences that would result from any nuclear detonation;

4. *Invites* all Member States to participate in the working group;

5. *Decides* that the working group shall convene in Geneva in 2016, as a subsidiary body of the General Assembly and under its rules of procedure, for up to 15 working days, within available time frames, with the participation and contribution of international organizations and civil society, in accordance with established practice, and shall hold its organizational session as soon as possible;

6. *Also decides* that the working group shall submit a report on its work, reflecting the negotiations and its recommendations, to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session, which will assess its work, taking into account developments in other relevant forums;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide, within available resources, the support necessary to convene the working group;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-first session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations".